



Request for Proposal (RFP)

Place-, Project-, Problem-Based (3P) STEM Education Grants

Transforming STEM education with authentic learning.

Grant Overview

MiSTEM is reimagining STEM education using transdisciplinary approaches to create a STEM culture, empower teachers, integrate business and education, and ensure high-quality STEM experiences for students. Grantees will benefit from being involved in a community that is leading STEM initiatives in Michigan.

The Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) and the MiSTEM Network [hereafter referred to as "the Agencies"] will award up to \$200,000 in grants (up to \$20,000 each) to boost STEM education and career exposure for students in K-12 Michigan classrooms.

An important goal of this grant program is to develop a professional community for leaders in 3-P education in Michigan. An important topical focus of this grant program is 3-P learning with a freshwater focus. Read more about MiSTEM Network 3P learning in Michigan [here](#).

Application deadline is 5 p.m. (ET) on April 12, 2022.

Funding Opportunity Description

This competitive grant will support implementation of 3P (place-, project-, and/or problem-based) Learning to:

- Expand cross-curricular learning in K-12 Michigan classrooms
- Build learning communities of practice with grantees
- Connect 3P learning to a district continuous improvement plan
- Create community and business partnerships
- Expose and prepare students for future career opportunities
- Grow the next generation of critical thinkers to identify and solve complex problems

Funding Source

Funding for this grant opportunity is provided by the Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy, through a grant under the Michigan Great Lakes Protection Fund, through a grant under the U.S. EPA Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, and the Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity's MiSTEM Network.



MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF
ENVIRONMENT, GREAT LAKES, AND ENERGY

Award Information

The grants are funded through support from the Agencies. It is anticipated that approximately \$200,000 will be available in FY 2022 to fund eligible applications. A minimum of \$100,000 of this total funding is specifically available for grants to support programs that expand or institutionalize Great Lakes freshwater STEM education.

Priority for the remaining \$100,000 will be given to programs that focus on STEM topics or issues that integrate computer science.

Awards are from \$5,000 up to \$20,000.

Award Amount	Students Reached
\$5,000 to \$20,000	> 500 students
\$5,000 to \$15,000	251-499 students
\$5,000 to \$10,000	< 250 students

Award Period

- Award period is June 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023.
- Applicants will be evaluated on readiness and feasibility for completion within the designated timeline.

What Benefits Will Grantees Receive?

In addition to grant funding, grantees will receive the following benefits:

1. Engagement in communities of practice (CoP)
 - a. Educators – support for teaching 3P pedagogies
 - b. Administrators – systems change and sustainability for 3P
 - c. Community partners – facilitate partnerships through MiSTEM
2. Promotions for grantee, such as vignettes in the MiSTEM playbook
3. 3P professional learning for educators/administrators
4. Virtual workshops for freshwater education grantees

Expectations of Grantees

Estimated Time Frame

Proposed Activities

June 30, 2022.....	Secure grant contract with MiSTEM at Grand Valley State University.
June 2022.....	Participate in Grant Kick-off Workshop.
4 times/year	Provide reviews of MiSTEM Playbooks. (Example playbook here)
Summer 2022	Attend 3P pedagogy professional learning (PL)* (optional PL for grantees with prior 3P PL).
4 times/year	Participate in communities of practice (CoP)
June 30, 2022	Include 3P learning in the district's MICIP.
June 2022 - June 2023 ..	Expand, enhance or take steps to institutionalize 3P learning in your district.
June 2022 - June 2023 ...	Help the Agencies profile your 3P programs for inclusion in the playbook and potential conference promotions.
2-4 times/year	Participate in grant evaluation.

NOTE: *There will be no registration costs for professional learning. Applicants should account for travel and lodging expenses in budget proposals. Refer to the FAQ for details.

Required Consortium Members

Required Eligible Applicants & Required Consortium Members

- One or more local education agencies (LEAs), Intermediate School Districts (ISDs) and/or Public School Academies (PSAs). One of these agencies must be the lead applicant and provide fiscal services for this grant.
- One or more active community or business partners

Ineligible Applicants

Ineligible Applicants

- Grants cannot be awarded to individuals
- An applicant for whom any of the following conditions existed in the 12 months prior to the application deadline:
 - EGLE, MDE, LEO and/or MiSTEM grant contract terminated
 - History of inability to meet EGLE, MDE, LEO and/or MiSTEM contractual terms and conditions
 - Listed on the federal/debarment list ([sam.gov](#))

Technical Assistance

Technical Supports

1. **Technical Assistance Webinar** – attend the webinar to learn about the grant content and focus areas and obtain answers to questions that potential applicants might have about the grant. Attendance is encouraged but is not required.
 - **Date:** Feb. 9, 2022
 - **Time:** 5-6 p.m. (ET)
 - [Webinar Registration](#)
2. **Technical Assistance** will be available between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. ET, Monday through Friday. This is provided to respond to specific needs for information, support or troubleshooting throughout the grant cycle. Enter questions or other information needed online [here](#).
 - Submitted questions will be posted to the [Frequently Asked Questions](#).

How to Apply

Submit a written grant application with the [online form](#) by 5 PM (ET) April 12, 2022.

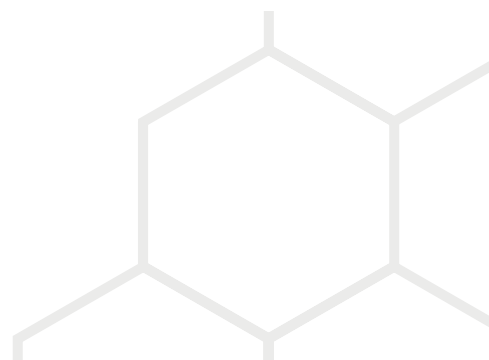
The online grant application questions can be found below in the Appendix.

Award Notification Information

Criteria for Acceptance

- **Successful applicants will receive notification via email by May 31, 2022**, that the application was approved **by MiSTEM at GVSU**.
- **Approved applicants will have five business days to respond** with appropriate acceptance of the grant funds.
- Applicants will be required to enter into a grant agreement with MiSTEM at GVSU that includes standard terms and conditions that are not subject to modifications.
- Failure to comply will result in cancellation of the grant award.

Grant proposals are considered public information under the Michigan Freedom of Information Act, PA 442 of 1976, as amended.



Proposed Documentation & Evaluation Criteria

Complete applications will be evaluated for funding based on the following:

- Extent to which the project engages with local, regional and state partners.
- Strength of the applicant's commitment to using 3P experiential learning.
- Thoughtfulness of plans to start, enhance or expand 3P teaching and learning.
- Commitment to institutionalizing 3P teaching and learning as demonstrated by the inclusion in the school or district continuous improvement plan(s).
- Applicant's commitment to participate in dialogue and learning with peers and the Agencies toward the goal of expanding 3P learning in Michigan.
- Overall quality and clarity of the application.
- Organizational capability of the applicant and feasibility to complete the project as proposed within the grant period.

Additionally, the Agencies will seek to balance funding to ensure diverse sites with attention to settlement pattern (urban, suburban, rural); region of Michigan (east/southeast, west/southwest, mid-Michigan, northern Lower Peninsula, Upper Peninsula); grades targeted (elementary, middle, high school); socioeconomic status and other demographic factors; and school format (traditional public, public charter).

The data collected will be used to prepare stories for sharing with funding agencies interested in the strategies being used. These vignettes will be made available through the MiSTEM playbook website. Permission to use videos, photos and names associated with the school will be requested as needed.

Appendix

Grant Application Questions **MUST** be submitted using the [online form](#).

Online Application Submission Information:

1. The project title
2. Information about the applicant, including:
 - Applicant agency or organization name
 - Applicant mailing address
 - Authorized representative's name, title, email address and telephone number
 - Applicant Federal ID#
 - Applicant DUNS#
 - Name, title and contact information of primary contact person, if different from that of applicant's authorized representative.
3. Grant amount requested
4. Description of the demographic composition of the school(s) and broader community

Appendix Continued

5. Grade Level(s) of students impacted
6. Estimated number of:
 - students to be engaged in 3P learning in the 2022-2023 school year
 - teachers to be engaged in 3P learning in the 2022-2023 school year
7. Description of previous, current or proposed efforts with 3P and STEM education contexts, such as Great Lakes Freshwater education or computer science education initiatives.
8. A description of how the applicant wishes to begin, expand or institutionalize their STEM 3P education experiences using these grant funds. Include information about:
 - student and family activities
 - support provided to teachers
 - engagement with community and/or business partners
 - proposed timeline with variable tasks
9. Describe the outcomes that will be achieved if the project is funded.
10. List the education personnel, including their role in the project and any prior experience working in this domain.
11. List the community and/or business partners and describe their role in the project.
12. Explain how this project supports the goals of the district continuous improvement plan.
13. Submit the required budget template ([grant budget template](#)).

